

THE PRESIDENCY.

THE COUNT BEGINS IN SOUTH CAROLINA. WADE HAMPTON CLAIMS TO BE ELECTED—THE DEMOCRATS AT NEW-ORLEANS ISSUE A LETTER OF REPLY TO THE REPUBLICANS.

The Supreme Court of South Carolina has ordered the State Canvassers to count the returns ministerially and report to the court. The count is going on. Wade Hampton telegraphed to New-Orleans that he is elected by 1,200 majority. The Democrats at New-Orleans have replied in a long letter to the Republican refusal of a conference. They say that the term "votes actually cast" was first used by Gen. Grant in his order to Gen. Sherman, and they state their opinion as to how the count should be made. A conference is now regarded as not likely to be held. Gen. Grant says that whoever is legally declared to be President shall be inaugurated, if the army and navy have to be assembled to do it. A threat of assassination against Gov. Hayes has been made at Columbus, Ohio. The Democrats will probably have a majority of 15, which may be increased to 20, in the lower House of Congress.

THE GENERAL OUTLOOK.

PRECAUTIONS AT THE CAPITAL.

THE LEGAL PRESIDENT TO BE INAUGURATED—AT LEAST 12,000 TROOPS AND 30 SHIPS OF WAR AT COMMAND.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—In military and naval circles it is believed that orders will soon be issued directing preparations to be made for the concentration of a sufficient force at Washington to quiet all apprehensions that are felt in the country of revolutionary demonstrations occurring to interfere with the counting of the electoral vote or with the inauguration of the legally chosen President. Army officers state that a force of 12,000 infantry and artillery could in two or three weeks time be assembled in the forts near Washington, and well-armed officers in the Navy Department say that about thirty of the most formidable ships of war in service are now in harbors on the coast between Maine and the Mississippi, comprising all the iron-clads fitted out when hostilities with Spain were considered imminent. All these vessels could be readily brought to Washington if an emergency should arise requiring their presence. It may be stated positively that the Administration does not regard the blistering of politicians or the threats of party newspapers as indicating a purpose on the part of any considerable body of citizens to resist the consummation of the election in case the legally ascertained result does not correspond with their wishes. President Grant and his advisers believe that the masses of the people of both parties will acquiesce in the result. Whatever it may be, no needless expense will be incurred nor groundless fears aroused by the concentration of armed forces at the capital unless such a step should be required by a menace to the public peace, which ought not to be disregarded. At the same time it may as well be known to all men who imagine that lawlessness may install a President when the laws do not elect that any attempt in that direction would be madness. The President, mindful of his oath, will see to it that the Constitution and the laws are enforced, and will have ample powers at his command to do so. No mob will interfere with the orderly count of the votes of the States by the two Houses of Congress or with the inauguration of the successful candidate.

MR. BLAINE AS PRESIDENT PRO TEM.

NEW MEN OFTEN CHOSEN FOR THE PLACE—HOW BLAINE MIGHT HOLD OVER AS PRESIDENT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Two objections have been urged against the selection of Mr. Blaine as President of the Senate pro tem.—first, that he will be a new member, and that it would not accord with the dignity of that body to confer such an honor upon him; and second, that as his term expires on the 4th of March, he must be sworn in anew at the beginning of the new term to which he will be elected this Winter, and therefore, not holding over, could not assume the office of President of the United States in case of a vacancy. To the first objection the answer is that the Senate is in the habit of choosing new members as its presiding officers. Mr. Carpenter was in his first and only term when he was placed in the chair, and so was Mr. Ferry. The second objection appears to have more weight at first sight, but it proves on examination not to be serious. The Senate, called together in special session by President Grant before his term expires "on the 5th of March, the 4th coming on Sunday, would, finding itself without a presiding officer, at once elect one. It would then be informed by the Secretary of State that a vacancy existed in the offices of President and Vice-President, and its just chosen President would enter upon the duties of the executive office. If there should be any apprehension of a delay in the action of the Senate, all questions and doubts could be settled by the resignation of President Grant on the 3d of March, which would install at once the then President of the Senate, and he would hold over under the act of 1792 until his successor could be elected and inaugurated.

A THREAT AGAINST GOV. HAYES.

EXTRAVAGANT TALK ABOUT ASSASSINATION IN CASE HE IS DECLARED ELECTED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
COLUMBUS, Ohio, Nov. 17.—The following statement was made by the State Journal yesterday, with reference to threatened violence toward Gov. Hayes in case he is declared elected:
"Mr. Ames Eberly needs an opportunity to set himself right before the public in a matter of some importance to his reputation, and we propose to give him that opportunity. It is reported to us by some of our most reputable citizens, who are willing to vouch for their statements, that Mr. Eberly has repeatedly said in the most public and significant manner, that 'if Hayes has 185 votes in the Electoral College he will never leave Columbus alive, by God. I can raise 5,000 men who will see to it.' And similar threats. During the day Mr. Eberly called on Gov. Hayes and emphatically denied ever having used such language. He also publishes a card to the same effect. Gov. F. O'Hara and others are given no authority, and will make affidavit to the effect that Eberly did make use of the language above quoted. The latter creates considerable comment, all the parties being prominent business men."

THE CABINET CONSULT THE STATUTES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The regular Cabinet meeting today was attended by all the members, and lasted an hour and a half. After the transaction of a considerable amount of routine business, there was a general interchange of views as to the present political situation. Various questions that have been raised throughout the country concerning the eligibility of electors and possible vacancies were informally discussed, with a view to a full understanding of the Federal and State laws bearing upon these

subjects. Subsequently the Cabinet repaired to the law library of the Department of Justice, in order to consult statutes and decisions. No action of any kind was taken.

LOUISIANA.

A CONFERENCE NOW IMPROBABLE. COUNSELLORS ON BOTH SIDES TOO STRONG PARTY MEN—A SCATTERING IN A DAY OR TWO LIKELY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
NEW-ORLEANS, Nov. 17.—This has been the quietest day in New-Orleans since the election. On the reception of the answer of the Republican Visiting Committee yesterday afternoon the Democrats began the preparation of their reply. Several drafts were made and discussed, but none was adopted until late this afternoon. It was delivered to the Republicans this evening. A full copy of the document will reach THE TRIBUNE through the general press dispatches. The best men in both parties have about come to the conclusion that concert of action between the two visiting committees is almost out of the question. The gentlemen who have come here from the North are on the whole as fair and judicial in their habits as any who belong to either party; but the excitement of the Presidential campaign, in which most of them were actually engaged, has been so great, and the stake for which both parties are now playing on the soil of Louisiana is so large, that the majority of them find it impossible to forget that they are partisans. The outcome of the formal correspondence now in progress therefore will probably be that no agreement will be reached; but that a few representatives of each party will be designated to remain and witness the count of the vote, and that the remainder will return home within a day or two. It is possible that after one or two more formal letters have passed a joint conference may be held, but it does not look at all probable.

THE DEMOCRATIC REPLY.

THE PHRASE "VOTES ACTUALLY CAST" THAT OF PRESIDENT GRANT HIMSELF—RULES THAT SHOULD GOVERN THE COUNT.

NEW-ORLEANS, Nov. 17.—The Northern Democrats in this city who have been in correspondence with the visiting Republicans with reference to a conference upon the subject of the counting of the election returns sent a reply, to-day, to the Republican refusal to enter into a conference on the basis proposed. It is as follows:

To the Hon. John Sherman, Stanley Matthews, J. A. Garfield, W. D. Kelley, John A. Kasson, E. W. Stoughton, C. Irving Ditty, J. H. Van Allen, Eugene Hale, M. S. Quay, W. C. Cumbick, E. S. Noyes, J. E. Stevenson, John Coburn, Lew Wallace, John M. Tuttle, W. A. McGrew, J. A. Chapman, W. R. Smith, Abner Taylor, S. K. Haven, J. M. Beardsley, C. B. Farwell, Courtlandt Parker, Sidney Clark, and J. C. Hixon.

GENTLEMEN: We are in receipt of your answer to our letter of the 14th instant, in which you inform us of your determination not to confer with us for the purpose of ascertaining such influence as we may possess in behalf of such a canvass of the "votes actually cast" at the election in Louisiana as, by its fairness and impartiality, shall command the acquiescence and respect of all parties. We sincerely regret this failure of our attempt to secure the cooperation of the citizens from other Northern States in furtherance of the purpose which, as we supposed, had brought them hither at this juncture. We regret it all the more because your refusal to confer and cooperate with us appears to be based upon a serious misapprehension of the language, no less than the spirit of our communication. It can hardly have escaped your notice that our statement of the result to be attained by the cooperative action which we sought to bring about was a simple reproduction of the language of President Grant—at whose request, we understand, you came here—in his recent order to Gen. Sherman. That language was deliberately used, no doubt, in view of the fact—about which, as we conceive, there can be no dispute—that the first and most essential prerequisite to "an honest and just declaration of the results of the recent election in Louisiana" is a fair and impartial canvass of the "votes actually cast," and it seems to us that you do the President great injustice in supposing that in speaking of the votes actually cast he meant to include votes illegally cast, as you certainly do us injustice by the imputation of a desire to insist upon a narrow and vicious interpretation. In our judgment the expression "votes actually cast" of necessity designates votes legally cast, and as a consequence of such votes only did we desire to secure a fair and impartial canvass.

We beg leave to say, therefore, that you are mistaken in the belief that we sought unduly to narrow the basis on which we invited your cooperative action, and you are no less in error in attributing to us a purpose to interfere with the legal authorities of the State in the discharge of their duties, to claim rights, and to arrogate to ourselves powers which we do not possess. In writing our letter we were fully aware that both the organization and action, whether judicial or ministerial, of the Returning Board of Louisiana were beyond any authoritative control from without; and that it would be the height of arrogance and folly to attempt to alter the laws of a State of which we are not citizens, or to obtrude our interpretation of these laws upon those whose duty it is to administer them; but we had supposed, nevertheless, that there was an influence which might be rightfully exerted by citizens of this Republic who are strangers in this State, and we had taken it for granted that your presence here in response to the suggestion of the President was a recognition of this fact. We had supposed that it was improper for us to remind the authorities of this State, by our mere presence at least, that there are certain rules of fairness and justice which underlie all constitutions and laws, and upon whose observance must depend the acquiescence of the people of all parties in the declared result of the Louisiana election—rules such as these: That no one ought to be judged in his own case; that the decision of any contest ought not to depend upon the mere arbitrament of one of the parties thereto; that before such a decision is made both parties ought to be fully and fairly heard, all questions of fact upon evidence duly presented and weighed under the rules which are of universal recognition in all the States of this Union; that the trial of all causes involving public interests at least ought to be public; and that all the proceedings resorted to for the purpose of determining the issues in the present electoral contest ought, by their manifest impartiality, to disarm the suspicion that the forms of law have been perverted into instruments for the violation of its spirit. In this connection we may be permitted to observe that, while undoubtedly, as you say, a sedulous cultivation of the habits of obedience to the forms of law is vital to the preservation of constitutional liberty, it is no less important that a refusal to yield such obedience be not provoked by using these forms as a means for subverting the very ends for which they were designed.

Without undertaking to question the sincerity of the belief which you are at pains to express, that you know of no reason to doubt that the Louisiana Returning Board will make "a perfectly honest and just declaration of the results of the recent election in Louisiana," we deem it not improper to remind you that the presence in this city of so many citizens from all parts of the Union at this moment seems to be evidence of a widely prevalent distrust of the action of this board; and that such distrust has its foundation, at least, that the constitution of the board has not been changed since its returns were set aside by a Congressional committee, of which

the Republican candidate for the Vice-Presidency was a member. And this distrust is not unnatural, in view of the fact that, as we understand, one of the members of the Returning Board is a candidate voted for at the recent election, another the holder of an office of profit and trust by appointment of the present Executive of the National Government, while all the members of the board are believed to be in affiliation with but one of the parties to the present political contest. In view of all this, it is hardly necessary to add that the terms of our letter were not designed to prejudice the question whether the functions of the Returning Board were judicial or ministerial, or both, but simply to invite you to see with us that, whatever may be the character of those functions they are openly and fairly and honestly discharged; and while we thus refrained from any attempt at shaping or construing the laws of Louisiana, we deemed it equally irrelevant to the subject of our correspondence with you to allude to the duties devolving upon officers other than the constituents of the Louisiana Returning Board, under the laws and Constitution of the United States. Whether, as you observe by way of illustration, under the Constitution, the President of the Senate both counts and declares the votes of the electors of the several States, his duty being simply ministerial and not subject to the control of Congress, or whether as has been the practice for more than 80 years, a practice inaugurated by men, some of whom had been among the framers of the Constitution, the votes are to be counted under the direction and control of the Senate and House of Representatives, is a question upon the discussion of which we deem it no part of our duty to enter.

In conclusion, permit us to say that notwithstanding your refusal to cooperate, we still cherish the hope that the Returning Board, warned by the history of the past and conscious that its actions are being observed by the whole nation, will discharge its delicate duties with such circumspection, fairness, and impartiality as will give satisfaction to the American people. To this end we will continue to labor. Should a different result follow the action of the board we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that, while you have taken the responsibility of declining to act with us, we have done all in our power to avert the consequences which may follow. Very respectfully,

JOHN M. PALMER, LYMAN TRUMBULL, and W. R. MORRISON of Illinois.

S. J. RANDALL, A. G. CURTIS, and WM. BIGLER of Pennsylvania.

J. R. DOOLITTLE and GEORGE B. SMITH of Wisconsin.

J. E. McDONALD, G. W. JULIAN, M. D. MANSON, and J. O. LOVE of Indiana.

H. WATKINSON, J. W. STEVENSON, and H. D. MCHEENY of Kentucky.

OSWALD OTTENDORFER and F. R. COUDERT of New-York.

J. B. STALLIO and P. H. WATSON of Ohio.

L. V. BOGVT, JAMES O. BROADHEAD, and C. GIBSON of Missouri.

JOHN LEE CARROLL and W. F. HAMILTON of Maryland.

W. G. SUMNER of Connecticut.

WHAT EACH PARTY EXPECTS TO PROVE.

VIOLENCE UNWORTHY OF A FREE COUNTRY ON THE ONE HAND—WHOLESALE CONVERSIONS OF THE BLACKS AND REPUBLICAN TRICKERY ON THE OTHER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
NEW-ORLEANS, Nov. 17.—The Returning Board will meet at noon to-morrow. The only business it is likely to transact will be the election of a member to fill the vacancy which exists. There is some gossip about as to the choice to be made, but this is treated by both parties as a matter of indifference. If a Democrat is chosen, and the selection will probably be made from that party, he will only be able to protest against any proceeding which may not please his party, and to refuse to sign the reports of the board. He will not be called upon to manage the cross-examination of witnesses, as during the consideration of all contested cases counsel for the Republican and Democratic State Committees will be present. The general impression here is that the Returning Board will consume the entire time between now and the day on which the electors are required to meet and cast their votes in canvassing the returns on the national ticket, and the result on the State ticket may not be officially known until some time after that.

The representatives of both State Committees are busy preparing testimony bearing on the election in "bulldozed" parishes, and if the Returning Board hears one-half of its labor would hardly be completed before the 4th of March. The evidence is similar to that with which the public has been made familiar during or after every political canvass in the South for the last eight years. On one side there are the old stories of political murders, whippings, threatenings, &c. On the other there are wholesale denials and recriminations. Several earnest, persistent efforts to trace up stories of political outrages and find out just what basis there has been for them, and the memory that similar reports made by these same Republican politicians of Louisiana have in so many instances evaporated into thin air before the searching investigation of a Congressional Committee, make me slow to credit those I hear now. There may have been a resolute reign of terror throughout whole sections of this State, as Gov. Kellogg in his dispatch to THE TRIBUNE has said there was; and there are certain facts in connection with the election which, taken by themselves, seem to give color to the assertion. But safe advice to those who desire to get at the facts is to suspend judgment until testimony on the question has been submitted to the Returning Board.

I say that the Democrats will put in a general denial. They will do more than that. They will attempt to show that the result in the parishes where the Republican majority has been greatly cut down or entirely overcome has been due to the political conversion of the negroes. There are now in this city 20 or 30 negro politicians who say and are expected to swear before the Returning Board, if they have a chance, that they canvassed the counties in which these revolutions took place, in behalf of the Democratic State and National tickets; that wherever they went they had large meetings of colored people, and that they formed the Democratic clubs, and at the heads of those clubs, in some instances numbering 100 men each, they went to the polls and voted Democratic tickets. They deny that there was any intimidation or that colored Republicans were prevented from voting as they pleased. The Democratic Committee also assert that they have voluntary affidavits by Republican officials living in "bulldozed" parishes positively denying the assertions of Gov. Kellogg in his dispatch to THE TRIBUNE, and declaring that the election was a fair and free one. Besides this, they explain the total absence of Republican votes in one or two parishes by asserting that the Republican managers in this city prevented any Republican tickets from being sent to those parishes, and issued orders to their friends there not to vote. They say they can prove these orders. They say finally that they can produce original copies of the instructions of a United States official to his subordinates at the polls, in which the latter were told that they were expected to carry their precincts by given majorities, and that if they did not do it, they might expect nothing from the Republican party.

This is a brief synopsis of the controversy in this State as presented by each side. How far there is evidence to sustain either remains to be seen. The

See Seventh Page.

THE VOTE OF CONNECTICUT.

AN HONORABLE REPUBLICAN DEFEAT.

THE LEGISLATURE REPUBLICAN—THE REGISTRY LAW TO BE MADE MORE STRINGENT—DISREGARD OF CONGRESSMAN KELLOGG—MR. EDMUNDS'S SONG BOOKS.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

NEW-HAVEN, Nov. 17.—The discussion of the great question "Who is actually elected President?" has raged so violently for the past ten days that the results of the election in the State have received little attention. Public interest has been so entirely absorbed in the three disputed States, South Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana, that very little thought has been given to Connecticut even by her own politicians. The feeling upon the Presidential question has been high and warm; really more intense and bitter, I think, in New-Haven than in New-York and the larger cities. Connecticut Democracy has always had a rather acid flavor under its best conditions; this year it had built up so largely on the prospect of assured success, and discounted the coming victory to such an extent, that under the sudden letting down to a possibility of defeat, and very narrow defeat at that, it seemed for a time not only inexpressible, but uncontrollable. It seemed so suddenly that the very hurrahs uttered in its throat. The Republicans felt the gravity of the situation profoundly, and discussed it seriously and calmly; the rabble on the other side were brawling and quarrelsome, and alarmed some timid people by threats of violence in case Hayes should be declared elected. They tried to do the same thing during the war. The Democratic organ here did what it could to fan the flame by the publication of false charges of Republican conspiracies to count their candidates in, and by bombastic appeals to the passions of the mob, by empty threats and silly bluster. There was excuse for any such violent language and reckless behavior, but it shows how confidently they had calculated upon success, and how great was their disappointment. They have been growing into the exercise of patience and resignation within the past two or three days, and I now think it quite probable that the New-Haven Democrats will not overthrow the Government or confiscate and destroy the property of Republican citizens, even if Hayes should be declared elected and the progress of "Reform" checked.

Connecticut Republicans, though they failed to overcome entirely the 7,500 Democratic plurality of last Spring, and lost their State and electoral tickets accordingly, have still much upon which to congratulate themselves in the result. They have not only outdone the Democratic majority in the State to less than 3,000, but they have carried both branches of the Legislature by good majorities, and instead of some 80 or 90 against them on joint ballot, as last Spring, can count a majority of about 25 in their favor. As was predicted would be the case in this correspondence before the election, the Republicans made large gains in the country towns, and were swamped—as they say by fraudulent voting—in the large cities. The majorities by which the Democrats elected their State and electoral tickets were given in New-Haven and Hartford. It is a noticeable fact in connection with the result that last Spring, when a United States Senator was to be chosen and Mr. William H. Barnum was a candidate for the position, the Democrats carried nearly all the close towns and had an overwhelming majority in the Legislature. The result was charged to Mr. Barnum's lavish but judicious use of money. This year they meant to make sure of the electoral ticket, and it is said that the money to do it was spent in the cities. Hence their large gains in the cities and losses in the country towns. The Republicans complain that the door to fraudulent voting was opened by Democratic legislation which repealed the provisions of the registry law regulating certificate voting and the admission of electors. The first business of the new Republican Legislature will be to reinstate the old or adopt new safeguards, which shall put a check upon the business in future. They can do it with no fear of a veto, as Mr. Hubbard, the Governor elect, is not likely to interpose his negative to such legislation, and if he should it would be powerless, as a majority overrides the Governor's veto in Connecticut. The House will be organized with Mr. Lynch Harrison of Guilford, for Speaker. He is a perfectly competent gentleman, has had considerable legislative experience, and has shown ability, good judgment and aptitude for affairs. Doubtless Mr. Hanson of Cromwell, the efficient Secretary of the State Committee, will be Clerk of the Senate, and Mr. "Joe" Barbour, a "roving stump speaker," Clerk of the House. The Legislature will have plenty to do in undoing the work of the preceding Democratic Legislature. It will have the satisfaction, too, not unmixed with annoyance, of filling several offices, some of them judicial, the terms of which the Democrats, in their confidence of holding the State, have extended during the past two years.

It will be seen by what I have said, that the Republicans, notwithstanding the failure to carry their State and electoral tickets, have, in the phrase of politicians, "covered themselves with glory." Moreover, the chagrin which the State Legislature, in common with the party, feel at the loss of the State to the Presidential candidates is not unmixed with a grain of that savage satisfaction which finds expression in "I told you so." When the chairman of the committee protested against the operations of Postmaster Edmunds in Washington in squeezing the office-holders of the State for his committee—if there be one—he was fully informed that Connecticut must take care of itself, and that the National Committee did not care about the State anyhow. The chairman told Secretary Chandler he might see the time when the six electoral votes of Connecticut would be needed; and he has had the satisfaction of seeing that event come to pass. The committee are of the opinion that if they had had money enough to operate effectively against fraudulent voting in the cities they could have carried the State. The six votes would be handy to have under existing circumstances. They acknowledge, however, the receipt of a package of documents from Postmaster Edmunds's Committee, on the Friday before the election, containing, among other things equally serviceable at the close of a campaign, 500 *Hayes and Wheeler song-books*. Mr. Edmunds appears to be one of those who believe if they can make the songs of a nation they need not care who makes its laws.

Among the humors of the campaign not yet grown altogether stale, it may be mentioned that while each party was anxious to gain every advantage of the other, and especially in the matter of printing tickets exactly like those of their opponents, except in the essential matter of the candidates' names, the Republicans were successful, and the Democrats got badly fooled. The Republicans having secured an early copy of the Democratic ticket, had ample time to distribute perfect imitations of it through the State. On the other hand, knowing that their opponents would be up to the same game, they had a few hundred Republican tickets of a special style and pattern printed, which they allowed to get into the hands of persons who sold them to the Democratic managers. These were imitated, and large numbers of the imitations circulated by the Democrats. When the Republicans brought out their genuine tickets Tuesday morning, there was a feeling of profound disgust on the part of the gentlemen who had taken so much trouble and incurred so much expense to distribute "a pewter imitation of a pinhead original." But when a little later they discovered that their own tickets had actually been cleverly and successfully imitated, disgust gave way to earnest indignation. Their newspapers have hardly even yet ceased denouncing the

"infamous trick" and "outrageous attempt to deceive and defraud." It was not a pretty business for either side to engage in, but I find that committees do a great many queer things in politics which would not be called quite fair or honorable in any other business. The amusing feature of this transaction was the indignation of the unsuccessful party at the success of the other. "There's cheating round this board," exclaimed the fellow with four jacks in his sleeve, when his opponent played the fifth.

The defeat of Gen. Hawley in the 1st District is very generally regretted, not only by his political friends, but by many of his opponents, who desired to have the district represented in Congress by a man of ability and influence, and who voted for him accordingly. The heavy Democratic majority in Hartford overcame his gains outside, and gave his opponent between 100 and 200 majority. The defeat of Mr. Kellogg in the 1st District was so decisive that it is not probable he will reappear in politics very soon. He was nominated avowedly for two reasons: one because no one else wanted it, and the other because with his methods of conducting a canvass he usually manages to run ahead of his ticket. The nomination was a gross affront to the intelligence and honesty of the party in the district, for one reason, if no other. After pretending to be opposed to the back-pay grab, and running for Congress when the party organs which supported him attacked Wm. H. Barnum for not covering his back pay into the Treasury, and compelling him to formally turn it in, Kellogg left his own in the hands of the Sergeant-at-Arms, subject to his order, and it is said read and pocketed it last March, after he supposed "it had blown over." THE TRIBUNE called attention to the fact before the election. Kellogg's answer was an attack upon the supposed writer of the article, charging him with malicious motives. But he never referred to the back pay business, or denied the charge. The returns of the Congress vote show that while Kellogg ran behind Hayes 578 in New-Haven County, and 178 in Middlesex, a total of 756, his opponent, an inflationist, did not profit by it, for he likewise ran behind his ticket, receiving 41 votes less than Tilden in the district. From this fact I judge that THE TRIBUNE's suggestion in the article entitled "Between the Devil and the Deep Sea" was followed in a good many instances by men who thought a little wholesome scratching might do good by way of a reminder to the managing politicians. It occurs to me that Mr. Kellogg would have been wiser to have undertaken an explanation of the back-pay business instead of discussing in so elaborate a manner the motives of the persons who called for it, about whom his audience knew nothing and cared less. But Mr. Kellogg is rather a unique person in politics, and has his own way of conducting campaigns.

WASHINGTON.

SECRET SERVICE REPORT.

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT IN MAKING ARRESTS—NUMBER OF CONVICTS—TOTAL IMPRISONMENTS AND FINES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—James J. Brooks, Chief of the Secret Service, has submitted his annual report to the Secretary of the Treasury. The following is a synopsis of its more important provisions: The total number of arrests was 223. These arrests were made for making, dealing in, or passing counterfeit money and altering Treasury notes and United States bonds. These were besides some arrests for smuggling, for larceny of Government property, fraudulent bankruptcy, violations of Internal Revenue law, and for running United States mails. Of these arrests 43 have been convicted and sentenced, 5 await sentence, 35 have pleaded guilty, and only 15 have been acquitted. The aggregate sentence of those imprisoned was 236 years, and the total fine assessed was \$4,192. The service is also engaged in an examination of cases of back pay and money fraud. The service has also contributed materially to the success of seizures. In revenue cases, having taken within the year \$300,000.

The total number of arrests made by local authorities for violation of revenue laws is 141. Their aggregate sentences were 125 years; the total fine, \$2,950. The division during the year has captured Government money stolen and altered United States bonds to the amount of \$237,387. A vast amount of counterfeit plate has been captured, including some of the most dangerous that has ever been made. The report concludes: "In submitting my report of the operations of this division during the year, I cannot refrain from expressing my appreciation of the assistance and aid administered to the class of criminals with whom we have especially to do, and to the important convictions obtained, and in the extent of counterfeit money and material captured. Two of the most formidable gangs that ever operated in this country have been broken up, and the counterfeiters of national bank notes and fraction currency have been brought to justice, and most of their agents or accessories arrested and are undergoing terms of imprisonment."

PENSION BUREAU REFORM.

SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN A REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The Commissioner of Pensions today submitted to the Secretary of the Interior a report supplementary to his regular annual report upon the business of his office. This report embraces such recommendations as the commissioner has made to insure the efficiency and more economical administration of his office as well as the expedition of business. The most important feature in the suggested amendment of the law is the repeal of the present law admitting *ex parte* affidavits in support of claims and the existing system of medical examinations. In reference to the admission of *ex parte* affidavits, he says that if this species of testimony in support of claims be continued it will swamp the office with an increase of original claims reaching 40,000 exclusive of 1,000 yearly land claims. Of the aggregate not more than 64 per cent were passed. There are now on file in the office 85,000 unadjudicated claims besides 60,000 rejected ones. In correction of this unwholesome system it is proposed to abolish the 1,513 examining surgeons, as the local associations and influences dispose them to too great liberality in passing subjects of examination. It has been found that the testimony in most cases is entirely unworthy. In addition, the number of persons ready to perjure themselves to be on the increase. The papers of claimants are also five to ten times more voluminous than they were, without adding a corresponding amount of trustworthiness. It is recommended that the entire country be divided into 60 districts, to each of which a surgeon be appointed for medical examinations, and that the papers of claimants be sent to be sent in form ready for adjudication by the Pension Bureau. The papers of claimants are now sent to the local examining surgeons, who are in vogue. At present the examining surgeons receive \$2 for each examination, which alone costs the Government at least \$100,000 a year. It would also enable the commissioner to make a reduction of at least one-third the present force of the bureau.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 1876.

The Secretary of the Navy has received the cruising report of Commodore C. H. Caldwell, commander of the United States naval force of the South Atlantic Station, United States Pacific Station, and the United States Atlantic Station, dated Sandy Point, Straits of Magellan, Oct. 1, 1876, on board the flagship Richmond. He left Valparaiso on the 12th of September for the South Atlantic, and made Cape Horn on the 23d. The Straits of Magellan were reached on the morning of the 28th, and Sandy Point entered on the 30th. It was intended to remain there for a few days to coal the ship and have target practice, and then proceed to Montevideo, arriving there between the 15th and the 20th of October. The officers and crew were in excellent health.

The United States Consul at Callao reports to the State Department on the 19th of last month that on the 10th of September, off Cape Horn, the ship United States of Newburyport, Mass., bound for San Francisco, was dark at sea in latitude 49° 21'. No passengers were on board. The officers and crew were rescued from the ship after the vessel had been abandoned. They were brought into Callao by the British bark *Sarawati*, Henry Josse, master, whose conduct on the occasion was highly commended and acknowledged by the Government of the United States. The Tallapoosa will leave the Washington Navy-Yard on Monday next for Port Royal, S. C., with Admiral Porter, Vice-Admiral Rowan, Rear-Admiral Davis, Chief Engineer Kluge, and Naval Constructor Easley, to visit the various naval stations on the Atlantic coast, and report as to the advisability of closing one or more of them.

THE ADVENT OF WAR.

SIGNIFICANT WORDS OF THE CZAR. THE RUSSIAN GENERALS ENTHUSIASTIC—RAILROADS RESERVED FOR MILITARY USE—THE TURK STILL DELIBERATING ON THE CONFERENCE SCHEME—WARLIKE MEASURES IN ROMANIA.

LONDON, Friday, Nov. 17, 1876.

A Renter dispatch from St. Petersburg says the Czar, addressing the Generals and officers at the close of a review at the Palace of Czarsoke Solo, on Wednesday, said: "Gentlemen, let us wish the best success to the commanders of our armies." The Czar's words were received with enthusiastic cheering.

All freight traffic has been stopped since yesterday on the railways between Warsaw and Terepol, Kiev and Brest (Russian Express), Moscow and Brest, Tamboff and Saratoff, Graese and Zariyaz, Charkoff and Nicolaief, and Moscow and Kieff.

A Renter telegram from Constantinople says: "According to 'reliable' information, an extraordinary Cabinet Council will be held here to-morrow to decide definitely respecting the question of a conference, the British Cabinet having renewed its energetic demand on that subject."

PARIS, Friday, Nov. 17, 1876.

The Temps states that the Porte will give an official reply to the conference proposed to-morrow. It is believed Turkey will accept the conference on the basis of the British proposals.

BUCHAREST, Friday, Nov. 17, 1876.

The Roumanian House of Deputies has voted \$50,000 for the maintenance of a corps of observation on the Danube and for keeping the reserve under arms until December.

BELOGRADE, Friday, Nov. 17, 1876.

Prince Milan has sent a special envoy to the Czar. The Serbian Minister of War has resigned. Col. Grulich has been appointed his successor.

HUNGARY AND THE TURKISH QUESTION.

PASTI, Friday, Nov. 17, 1876.

Here von Tiza, Minister of the Interior, in a speech before the Hungarian Diet to-day, declared that the Government's Eastern policy was unchanged. He declined to discuss the question further at present, because of the serious responsibility resting upon the Ministry.

PRUSSIA ORGANIZING TWO ARMY CORPS.

LONDON, Saturday, Nov. 18, 1876.

The Standard's Vienna correspondent says telegrams from Berlin report that it is probable that Prussia will mobilize two army corps in Posen and Silesia. Rumors of the partial mobilization of the Austrian army are emphatically contradicted.

TURKEY AND THE CONFERENCE.

The Post publishes the following in an official form: We believe it probable that after the forthcoming meeting at Constantinople the Porte will accede to the English proposal for a conference.

RUSSIA STILL QUARRELsome.

Dispatches to both The Standard and Post from Berlin contain reports that Russia is raising fresh difficulties with regard to the line of demarcation, demanding that it be pushed further back on the Drina.

The Post's Berlin correspondent says it is expected that Turkey will refuse to accept the Russian proposal against the mobilization of the Russian troops.

NO SPEECH MADE BY THE CZAR.

The Russian Telegraphic Agency denies that the Czar made a speech to the officers at Czarsoke Solo on Wednesday, as was reported in yesterday's evening papers.

BRITISH HOSTILITY TO RUSSIA.

ANGRY DISCUSSIONS IN THE LONDON PRESS—RUSSIA WANTED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MAY BE FORCED TO GO TO WAR—THE OCCUPATION OF CONSTANTINOPLE PROPOSED.

LONDON, Friday, Nov. 17, 1876.

This afternoon The Pall Mall Gazette has a leading editorial on the Eastern question, which concludes as follows: "English jealousy, English suspicion, is thoroughly aroused. Any overt act on the part of Russia in the direction of her suspected aims would deepen this suspicion into active hostility, and not only leave the Government free to act against Russia, but, in certain contingencies, compel them to do so."